



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2004-031

DECLARING A DISASTER DUE TO SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS

WHEREAS, a severe winter storm beginning in February 2004 resulting in large snowfall accumulation has affected the majority of northern New Mexico;

WHEREAS, heavy snowfall has resulted in large numbers of impassable roads throughout the State;

WHEREAS, The storm has caused a large number of downed power lines resulting in electrical power outages in the East Mountain area of Bernalillo County and other areas of the State;

WHEREAS, all available local and state resources may be insufficient to prevent damage from this winter storm and the resulting loss will pose a significant threat to the health and safety of the citizens of, and visitors to the area, as well as to the economic base of the affected local governments; and

WHEREAS, this situation constitutes an emergency with potentially catastrophic consequences,

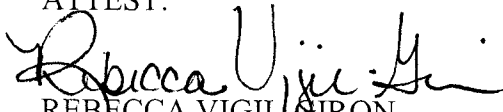
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Richardson, Governor of the State of New Mexico, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State of New Mexico, do hereby declare a State of Disaster for the severe winter storm event in Bernalillo, Guadalupe, Santa Fe, San Miguel, Sandoval, Mora, Torrance, Quay and DeBaca Counties in accordance with NMSA 1978, Section 6-7-1 through 6-7-3, as amended. Disaster Assistance Program funds will be made available and disbursed to eligible applicants under the authority of the Governor's Authorized Representative in accordance with the Disaster Assistance Program Local Government Handbook and the Statutes of the State of New Mexico. All State Agencies are directed to provide such assistance as may be requested by the State Emergency Operations Center under the authority of the Governor's Authorized Representative.

I FURTHER DIRECT the Adjutant General to order into service any elements of the New Mexico National Guard as are or may be needed to provide military support to civil authorities as needed for this emergency. This action is pursuant to and in accordance with NMSA 1978, Sections 20-1-6 and 20-4-3A, as amended. Such emergency assistance will be provided during the period of need at the discretion of the Governor's Authorized Representative.

I FURTHER DIRECT the Department of Finance and Administration to provide emergency financial resources in the amount of 750,000 to the Department of Public Safety. The Office of Emergency Management of the Department of Public Safety is directed to coordinate all requests for assistance, responses to such requests, and to request such aid and assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency as may be appropriate.

THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER supersedes Executive Order 2004-008 and any other previous orders, proclamations, or directives in conflict. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until such time as the Governor rescinds it.

ATTEST:


REBECCA VIGIL-GIRON
SECRETARY OF STATE

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE THIS
28th DAY OF MAY, 2004

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT
SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO


BILL RICHARDSON
GOVERNOR

